

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Criminal Action

No. 18-292

ROBERT BOWERS,

Defendant.

Transcript of TELEPHONIC STATUS CONFERENCE recorded on
Wednesday, February 13, 2019, in the United States District
Court, 700 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, before
The Hon. Donetta W. Ambrose, United States District Judge

APPEARANCES:

For the Government: Soo C. Song, Esq.
 Troy Rivetti, Esq.
 United States Attorney's Office
 700 Grant Street, Ste. 4000
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219

For the Defendant: Elisa A. Long, Esq.
 Michael J. Novara, Esq.
 Federal Public Defender's Office
 1500 Liberty Center
 1001 Liberty Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3714

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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(9:00 a.m.; telephone conference as follows:)

MS. HALFHILL: Judge, everyone is on the line.

THE COURT: Good morning. Okay. This is our status conference. So if the Government and defense can give me any status updates or any issues that have arisen, I'd be glad to hear you out. Anything from the Government?

MS. SONG: Your Honor, I think we can address the status of discovery. I'm sure you saw from the docket we did supersede the indictment and added some additional counts. The Defendant was arraigned before Judge Mitchell. So we're proceeding in that regard.

MR. RIVETTI: Yes, Your Honor. This is Troy Rivetti, and we have been having ongoing communications with defense counsel regarding getting available discovery to them. We actually have a discovery conference set up today. We're certain that the evidence is being provided for their review. So I think the parties are proceeding to resolve any outstanding issues and move forward in the discovery process.

MS. SONG: Yes. And we have some --

THE COURT: Yes. I know even motions are not due until April. As of this date, we have something set up in March as well, another status conference.

MS. SONG: That's correct.

1 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Is there anything
2 from the defense?

3 MS. LONG: Your Honor, this is Elisa Long. As Mr.
4 Rivetti said, we have met with the Government several times
5 about trying to resolve any outstanding discovery issues. If
6 there's anything that we can't resolve, we will certainly
7 bring that to the Court's attention in a timely way.

8 THE COURT: Okay. And are you still on the
9 expedited schedule for presenting information to the DOJ?

10 MS. SONG: Well, Your Honor, we've -- we're
11 actually not. We're undergoing the full capital case review
12 process. And we negotiated with defense counsel. Presently
13 they will make their presentation to the U.S. Attorney here
14 in Pittsburgh by April 15 of this year. And after he
15 analyzes and assesses their presentation along with
16 everything else, his recommendation will go down to the
17 Justice Department, and the committee will begin its review.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Well, is there anything else
19 anyone wants to bring to my attention?

20 MS. LONG: Not from the defense, Your Honor.

21 MR. RIVETTI: And not from the Government, Your
22 Honor.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Well, again, as Mr. Rivetti I
24 think said, if there are issues, you know, bring them to my
25 attention, and I will certainly hope to resolve everything as

1 quickly as possible. And I guess if there's nothing further,
2 I will be talking to all of you in March. Sherry, do you
3 know the date in March?

4 MS. HALFHILL: Yes. The 19th at 1:00 p.m. It's
5 not set as a teleconference. It is set for an in-person
6 conference.

7 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, then I will
8 see you on March 19 at 1:00 p.m. unless I hear from you
9 earlier.

10 MS. SONG: Thank you, Your Honor.

11 MR. RIVETTI: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 MR. NOVARA: Thank you, Judge.

13 THE COURT: Thank you all very much. Bye.

14 MS. HALFHILL: Bye-bye.

15 (Proceedings were concluded at 9:05 a.m.)

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18 C E R T I F I C A T E

19
20 I, Deborah Rowe, certify that the foregoing is
21 a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the
22 above-titled matter.

23
24 S/Deborah Rowe _____

25 Certified Realtime Reporter